Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/GCSS.IV/1/Add.1
1 June 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fourth special session
Nairobi, 18 June 1994
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA AND ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE SESSION

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Item 1. Opening of the session

1. The fourth special session of the Governing Council will be opened by the President of the Council at its seventeenth session or, in his absence, by one of the other officers of the Council at its seventeenth session.[1]

Item 2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of the work of the session

Action required

2. In accordance with rule 12 of its rules of procedure, the Council is to adopt the agenda for its fourth special session on the basis of the provisional agenda (UNEP/GCSS.IV/1).

3. With regard to the organization of the work of the session, the Executive Director is proposing that all the items on the provisional agenda be dealt with in plenary meetings. Immediately after the opening of the session in the morning of Saturday, 18 June 1994, and the adoption of the agenda, the Council would devote the rest of that meeting to item 4 (Adoption of the Instrument for the Establishment of a Restructured Global Environment Facility). In the afternoon of Saturday, 18 June, the Council would take up items 3 (Credentials of representatives) and 5 (Adoption of the report) and conclude the session with item 6 (Closure of the session).

Background

4. The Bureau of the Governing Council met on 9 May 1994 to discuss the best and most expeditious way for the Council to adopt the Instrument for the Establishment of a Restructured Global Environment Facility which had been agreed to by the GEF Participants' meeting held in Geneva from 14 to 16 March 1994. After receiving the request from the President with the concurrence of the members of the Bureau for a one day special session for this purpose, the Executive Director consulted the members of the Council as required by rule 5 of its rules of procedure. A majority of members concurred with the request, thus providing the Executive Director with the authority to convene the one day special session.

5. In accordance with rule 14 of the rules of procedure, the provisional agenda consists only of the item proposed for consideration in the request for the holding of the session, i.e. the adoption of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured GEF.

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[1] In keeping with the rules of procedure of the Governing Council (UNEP/GC.3/Rev.3), no election of officers is foreseen at the fourth special session. According to rule 18, "at the commencement of the first meeting of its regular session, the Governing Council shall elect a President, three Vice-Presidents and a Rapporteur from among its members". Rule 19 provides that the President, Vice-Presidents and the Rapporteur shall hold office until their successors are elected. The officers elected at the seventeenth session therefore remain in office until the next (eighteenth) regular session of the Council.

Documentation	
UNEP/GCSS.IV/1	- Provisional agenda
UNEP/GCSS.IV/1/Add.1	- Annotated provisional agenda and organization of the work of the session

Item 3. Credentials of representatives

Action required

6. In accordance with paragraph 2 of rule 17 of its rules of procedure, the Council is to receive the report of the Bureau on the credentials of representatives to the fourth special session of the Council.

Background

7. In accordance with paragraph 2 of rule 17 of the rules of procedure, the credentials of representatives at the fourth special session of the Council will be examined by the Bureau which will report thereon to the Council. It should be noted that, under rule 16, each member of the Council is to be represented by one accredited representative, who may be accompanied by such alternate representatives and advisers as may be required. According to paragraph 1 of rule 17, the credentials of representatives are "to be submitted to the Executive Director *before the first meeting which the representatives are to attend*". Given the extremely short duration of the session, it is imperative that all representatives comply with this rule.

Item 4. Adoption of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility

Action required

8. Under this item the Council is limited to adopt the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility (UNEP/GCSS.IV/2,annex). This document will form the basis for the participation of the United Nations Environment Programme as an implementing agency of the Global Environment Facility.

Background

9. The Global Environment Facility (GEF) was established as a pilot programme in 1991 in order to assist in the protection of the global environment. In 1992, participants agreed to a restructuring to ensure a governance that is transparent and democratic in nature, to promote universality in its participation and to provide for full cooperation in its implementation among the United Nations Environment Programme, the United Nations Development Programme and the World Bank. The restructuring has benefitted from an independent evaluation of the pilot phase and includes a new and replenished GEF Trust Fund. The principles for cooperation among the implementing agencies, subject to approval by their respective governing bodies, are set forth in the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility (UNEP/GCSS.IV/2,annex). The

Instrument was accepted by representatives of the States participating in the GEF at their meeting in Geneva from 14 to 16 March 1994 and will enter into force upon formal adoption by the governing bodies of the three implementing agencies of the Global Environment Facility.

Documentation		
UNEP/GCSS.IV/2	-	Adoption of the Instrument for the Establishment of the Restructured Global Environment Facility. Participation of the United Nations Environment Programme in the restructured Global Environment Facility. Note by the Executive Director.

Item 5. Adoption of the report

Action required

10. An outline draft report on the work of the session will be prepared for the consideration of the Council. The Council is invited to authorize the Rapporteur, with the assistance of the secretariat and under the guidance of the President, to finalize the report after the session for submission through the Economic and Social Council to the General Assembly at its forty-ninth session.

Item 6. Closure of the session

Governing Council of the United Nations Environment Programme

Distr.
GENERAL

UNEP/GCSS.IV/1/Add.1/Corr.1
5 June 1994

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

Fourth special session
Nairobi, 18 June 1994
Item 2 of the provisional agenda

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Corrigendum

1. Paragraph 8, line 1

For limited read invited

2. Page 4, box headed "Documentation"

Beneath the existing text insert a new entry reading

UNEP/GCSS.IV/2/Add.1	-	Suggested action by the Governing Council

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